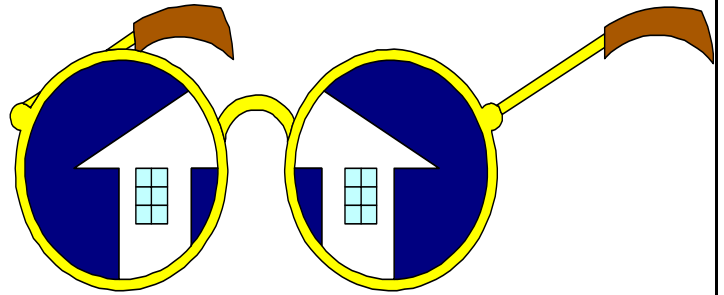


# Super Sentinel



November, 2003

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 4

## Terri's Tidbits

G.A.I.N. is over for another year! It was a great night for a party with absolutely beautiful weather. We had over 134 registered parties with over 8,171 participants. That is down from our 233 parties we had in 2002. Some of the reason for the lower numbers had to do with conflicts in schedules and many groups went together to have one large party for their area instead of the many little ones we usually have. I traveled with one of the specialty units (McGruff) and had a really good time watching the kids interact with our crime fighting mascot. Things did get a little tense



a couple of times when McGruff encountered a few real dogs who saw McGruff and did not know whether they should bark, bite or run! Thankfully, no harm was done and our McGruff survived the experience and even volunteered for next year!

I would personally like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this year's GAIN so successful, including the weatherman. The kudos really go out to all of the Neighborhood Watch captains, assistant captains and others who worked so hard in their neighborhoods to plan and organize their individual events. There were some really unique events, including one that sported

the "Toilet Bowl" where a toilet seat was used like a horseshoe. I am constantly in awe at the creativity of our captains. In addition, the Mesa Police Explorers did an excellent job as our McGruffs and other duties, along with the many police officers of the specialty units, the beat officers, and the other representatives from the City of Mesa who drove from party to party, visiting and sampling all of the wonderful food.

Just a reminder: There are only two months left in which to complete your Neighborhood Watch required two events per calendar year. If you have had an event and have not sent in your attendance sheet, please do so now.

We are currently in the process of mapping all of the Neighborhood Watch signs in Mesa after it came to our attention that there were still signs in inactive areas. I should have the mapping done by the first of the year and then I hope to have all of the inactive signs removed. If you have any signs in your area that you know are no longer active areas, please call me and make sure they get put on the map. The signs lose their effectiveness when not backed up by vigilant neighbors.

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH CAPTAINS MEETING

There will be a Neighborhood Watch captains meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2004. You will be given a choice of three times: 12 to 2 PM, 3 to 5PM and 6 to 8PM. As most of you know the Superstition Substation has a

conference room, but the seating will accommodate only about 50 or so comfortably. My first event out there ended up with over 100 and it was standing room only! By offering a more flexible schedule, it is my hope that more of you will be able to attend. This will be a great time to address concerns and/or ask questions and get to know our PD staff. Our agenda will include the introduction of a new proactive program aimed at fighting frauds and scams. Call Terri at 480-644-3692 to insure you are able to attend at the time you choose.

If you have a friend in another neighborhood interested in starting up a Neighborhood Watch in their area, bring them along. Help us reach our goal of eliminating crime one block at a time!!!

### Important Telephone Numbers



Terri Teten ..... (480)644-3692  
Superstition Neighborhood Watch  
Coordinator

Emergency or Crime in Progress....  
911

Community Relations Unit.....  
.....(480) 644-2300  
Community Relations FAX .....  
.....644-2800  
Police Non-Emergency.. ..644-2211  
Silent Witness.....1-800-343-TIPS  
Narcotics Hotline ....(480)644-5081  
Graffiti Hotline.....644-3083  
Gang Hotline.....644-4264  
Fraud Alert Hotline.....644-2345

## LOOKING FOR A PRESENTATION FOR YOUR MEETING?

There are a variety of topics that are available through the Crime Prevention Unit that you may request be presented at any of your Neighborhood Watch, organizational or business events. These presentations can be of a generic nature or personalized to meet your specific needs.



Presentations available:

### Personal Topics

Automobile Theft	Surfing the Web Safely
Closing Up for the Summer	Vacation Safety Tips
Cons and Frauds	Vehicle Security
Elder Abuse	Women's Safety
Holiday Safety Tips	
Identity Theft	
Personal Safety	
Residential Security	
Senior Safety	

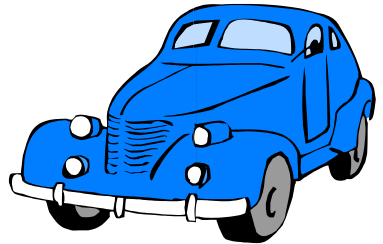
### Business Oriented Topics:

Armed Robbery and Shoplifting Prevention  
Check Fraud & Forgery Prevention  
CPTED (Crime Prevention Trough Environmental Design)  
Liability Concerns  
Realtor's Safety  
Telephone Bomb Threats  
Trespass Enforcement  
Workplace Violence

Speakers are available for events held Monday through Friday. Please call 480-644-2300 at least 3-4 weeks in advance to arrange for a speaker.

## AUTO THEFT PREVENTION

Auto theft prevention is a major goal for law enforcement agencies, especially in the Phoenix-Mesa area since it appears that we will once again be listed as the #1 location for auto thefts in 2003, according to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NCIB).



Mesa PD Crime Prevention Unit has been very active in auto theft prevention with our H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) events. These events allow us to partner with Mesa PD's Auto Theft Unit to etch the vehicle's VIN on the vehicle windows and encourage the vehicle owners to register their vehicles in the Watch Your Car program. As incentive to join the Watch Your Car program, we have been able to give steering wheel locks to participants due to a grant from the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority. The grant also enabled us to obtain the VIN etching equipment. This proactive approach has help reduce auto thefts in Mesa by 11% for the first quarter of 2003.

The NCIB recommends the "layered protection" approach. The number of layers your vehicle needs depends on the vehicle and your geographic location, along with your budget and personal preferences.

Layer #1—Common Sense — The simplest and the most cost-effective way to provide protection. Secure your vehicle even for the briefest periods. Remove your keys from the ignition, lock your doors and park in a well-lit area.

Layer #2 — Warning Device — Visible or audible devices which alert thieves that your vehicle is protected. This layer includes such items as: Audible alarms, steering column collars, steering wheel or brake pedal locks, brake locks, wheel locks, tire locks or tire deflators, theft deterrent decals, identification markers in or on your vehicle, window etching and laminated glass.

Layer #3 — Immobilization Devices — A device which prevents thieves from bypassing your ignition an hot-wiring the vehicle. Popular third layer devices include: Smart keys, fuse cut-offs, kill switches, and starter— ignition and fuel disablers.

Layer #4 — The final layer of protection is a tracking device which emits a signal to a police or monitoring station when the vehicle is reported stolen. Tracking devices are very effective in helping authorities recover stolen vehicles. Two examples of this layer of protection would be the Lo-jack and the OnStar systems.

According to the NCIB, "Professional thieves can steal any car, but make them work for yours. The more layers of protection on your vehicle, the more difficult it is to steal." (NCIB, Fraud Solutions Now).



By Commander Dan Saban

### This Year's Direction

Each year during the budget cycle (fiscal year is July to July) our department implements new goals and a strategy to improve services in our community for the coming year. This year was no different. This article will outline this year's new goals in the Patrol Bureau and inform you of the targets and methods we intend to utilize to ensure your quality of life.



Cmdr. Dan Saban

Our goals center around reduction of crime and reducing automobile collisions at targeted intersections. These goals are city-wide and will be focused on by each Patrol District. The CAT teams within each district usually have the most impact on any goals which have been established. The reason is because of their flexible work hours and their expertise in many areas. In general Patrol Officers are very busy responding to calls for service and have to be relied upon to be "first responders" to many situations. Their freedom to work on directed efforts is limited by their need to provide SAFETY first.

Our Patrol Bureau goals are as follows:

- #1 Successful closure of 20 drug houses.
- #2 Successful closure of 20 directed patrol projects (example; influx of crime problems in a particular area like vehicle burglaries etc.)
- #3 Increase the number of misdemeanor filings by 25% (example; is the patrol Officer completing the necessary paperwork and follow-up to minimize the need for Detectives to have to do it, which allows them to focus on the Felonies.)
- #4 Implement a domestic violence response program that will facilitate rapid apprehension of offenders.
- #5 Reduction of injury related collisions at specific high accident intersections.

As you can see, these programs take an extensive amount of coordination and focus to ensure their success. The CAT teams will work on a variety of these at the same time. However, they will still be available as in the past to handle your needs and those of others within our area like they did so well last year.

I'm confident that the existing partnership with you and the support you give us we'll once again have another GREAT year and together we can make our community SAFER !

Good Health to you all and I'll see you soon!

Dan Saban



## Be A Source for the Force- Volunteer !!

The mission of the Mesa Police Department Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS) program is to support members in providing police service and to promote community partnership.

Become a part of the Mesa Police Department team bringing quality public safety services to the citizens of Mesa. We value our volunteers' diversity of skills, abilities, education, and life experiences which they nobly donate to our community. The most effective law enforcement efforts are collaborative partnerships between police and community members. Our volunteers perform a wide variety of duties throughout the department, enabling our paid personnel to concentrate on specialized tasks and better manage their workflow. Some of our programs are volunteer-driven and would not exist without them! We provide our volunteers with on-the-job training, enabling them to achieve their peak performance in service to the City of Mesa.

The benefits of being a VIPS member are many. Use your experience to aid your community and fellow residents of Mesa.

Call Linda Bailey, VIPS Coordinator, at 480-644-2073 for more information and the qualifications for becoming a Volunteer in Police Service.



**CITY OF  
MESA**

*Great People, Quality Service!*

Mesa Police Department  
Community Relations Unit  
130 North Robson Street  
Mesa, AZ 85201-6697  
terri.teten@cityofmesa.org

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MESA, ARIZONA  
PERMIT NO. 160

### Calendar of Events — Winter 2003-2004

#### December

- 5 -** 5:00pm– 9:30pm Mesa's "Merry Mainstreet" — Come join us in downtown Mesa as Santa and his helpers celebrate the holiday season. Fun! Food! Entertainment!
- 23 -** 6:00pm– 8:00pm Children's fingerprinting by the Mesa Police Explorers  
225 E. 1st St., Suite #207, (Crime Prevention Unit)  
for additional details, call Officer Mitch Adair 480-644-4000 or 644-2300

#### January

- 8 -** **12-2PM OR 3 to 5PM OR 6 to 8PM Neighborhood Watch Captains Meeting**  
**Superstition Substation, 2430 S. Ellsworth. RSVP– Terri @ 480-644-3692.**  
**Call for your reservation as seating is limited.**
- 26 -** 6:00pm-8:00pm Children's fingerprinting by the Mesa Police Explorers  
225 E. 1st St., Suite #207, (Crime Prevention Unit)  
for additional details, call Officer Mitch Adair 480-644-4000 or 644-2300

**R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) Classes** will be offered through Mesa Parks and Rec. Contact Terri (480-644-3692) for dates and registration information.

For information on dates and times of our **BE ALERT! Child's Safety Program** contact Jerry Quarles 480-644-2539.